

## Message Text

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ACTION DOTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 ISO-00 NSC-05 CAB-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02

FAA-00 INRE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 L-03 PRS-01

USIE-00 PA-02 /069 W

-----241318Z 021015 /43

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL HAMILTON

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 LONDON 8551

FOR SEC TRANSPORTATION

PASS DOT (DAVENPORT, KAMM AND JEWELL), WHITE HOUSE

(JOHNSTON, CAB (WEST AND RODRIGUEZ)

E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, UK

SUBJECT: US-UK CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS: PRESS REPORTS ON  
SEC. ADAMS REMARKS

FOLLOWING FYI ARE SUMMARIES/ EXCERPTS OF LONDON NEWSPAPER  
ACCOUNTS OF SECRETARY ADAMS' 23 MAY PRESS CONF.  
COPIES OF ARTICLES TO BE POUCHED.

1. FINANCIAL TIMES, P. 1, LEAD POSITION, "US THREAT  
TO ATLANTIC AIR SERVICES".

A. "ALL AIR SERVICES BETWEEN THE UK AND THE US  
COULD CEASE UNLESS A NEW TRANSATLANTIC AIR SERVICES  
AGREEMENT IS REACHED BY JUNE 2... THIS DATE IS 20 DAYS  
BEFORE THE ORIGINAL DEADLINE".

B. "THE UK RESPONSE WAS IMMEDIATE. IN REJECTING MR.  
BOYD'S (SIC) SUGGESTION, IT WAS POINTED OUT IN WHITE-  
HALL THAT SINCE NEGOTIATIONS RESUMED ON MAY 16, CONSIDER-  
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ABLE PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE, AND THAT WHILE IT MIGHT BE  
POSSIBLE TO SEE MORE CLEARLY THE BROAD SHAPE OF ANY NEW  
AGREEMENT BY JUNE2, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE BY THEN EVEN  
TO INITIAL ANY NEW 'AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE'."

C. "HIS STATEMENT WAS REGARDED AS VIRTUALLY A PUBLIC  
ULTIMATUM TO THE UK TO SPEED UP THE NEGOTIATIONS..."

D. "THE UK NEGOTIATORS WERE NOT ALLOWING MR. ADAMS'

STATEMENT TO UPSET THEM. THEIR INTERPRETATION OF IT WAS THAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD BY HIS OWN SIDE IN THE TALKS THAT THE US TEAM WOULD LIKE A NATURAL BREAK FOR A FEW DAYS FROM JUNE 2, SO THAT WHILE THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS WERE ON IN LONDON THEY COULD REASSESS THE PROGRESS MADE, IN READINESS FOR THE FINAL RUN-UP TO THE JUNE 22 DEADLINE. THE UK OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT MR. ADAMS' INTERVENTION IS CLUMSY BUT IT SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO INTERFERE WITH THE PROGRESS OF THE TALKS, WHICH ALTHOUGH TOUGH, ARE SAID TO BE GOING WELL."

2. GUARDIAN, P. 2, "NEW AIR PACT DEADLINE SET BY AMERICANS."

A. REPORT OPENS WITH STATEMENT THAT SEC ADAMS SET NEW DEADLINE. "IN A MOVE WHICH SEEMS TO BE TAKEN THE (SIC) INDIGNANT BRITISH NEGOTIATORS ALMOST COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE MR. ADAMS SAID IN LONDON THAT THE AMERICANS WANTED A SETTLEMENT BY JUNE 2. THE EXISTING AGREEMENT EXPIRES N JUNE 22.

B. "HIS INTERVENTION WAS SEEN IN WHITEHALL AS AN UNNECESSARY PIECE OF DIPLOMATIC BULLYING THAT WOULD MERELY DISTURB THE SMOOTH, STATESMANLIKE PROGRESS OF THE RENEGOTIATION. THE BRITISH CLAIM THAT IT WOULD BE TOTALLY IMPOSSIBLE EVEN TO INITIAL AN AGREEMENT BY JUNE 2, LET ALONE SIGN A FINAL DOCUMENT."

C. "THE PROSPECT OF AIR SERVICES COMING TO A HALT ON JUNE 22 IS NOT RATED AS MORE THAN A REMOTE POSSIBILITY BY WHITEHALL. BUT, CURIOUSLY, THE BRITISH SIDE CLAIMS

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TO HAVE MADE CAREFUL CONTINGENCY PLANS -- USING CANADA, AND POSSIBLY THE BAHAMAS, AS GATEWAYS TO AMERICA."

3. DAILY TELEGRAPH, P. 1, CENTER, "US THREAT TO STOP ATLANTIC FLIGHTS."

A. "THE WARNING THAT ALL AIR TRAFFIC BETWEEN BRITAIN AND AMERICA COULD CEASE WITHIN 10 DAYS IF BRITAIN CANNOT COME UP WITH ACCEPTABLE PROPOSALS FOR A NEW BERMUDA AGREEMENT WAS GIVEN IN LONDON YESTERDAY..." "HE SAID 'A CESSATION' OF SERVICES HITTING THOUSANDS OF PASSENGERS ALREADY BOOKED ON TRANSATLANTIC FLIGHTS WAS A 'VERY REAL POSSIBILITY,' ADDING THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT DID NOT WANT NEGOTIATIONS TO DRAG ON UNTIL THE 11TH HOURS WITH NEITHER AIRLINES NOR PASSENGERS KNOWING WHAT WILL HAPPEN."

B. "MR. ADAMS'S WARNING ASTONISHED BRITISH AIRLINES."

C. CONSIDERABLE FACTUAL REPORTING OF PROBLEM WITH SIGNING AGREEMENT WITH CONCORDE-AT-DULLES PROBLEM OPEN. REPORTS ACCURATELY SEC. ADAMS' PROPOSED INITIALING

COMPROMISE.

D. "THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT BRITAIN HAS GIVEN IN TO AMERICAN PRESSURE ON MANY IMPORTANT NORTH ATLANTIC ISSUES, SUCH AS TRAFFIC DENSITY, ROUTES AND DESIGNATIONS AS WELL AS ALLOWING AMERICAN AIRLINES TO PICK UP PASSENGERS IN LONDON ENROUTE ELSEWHERE. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN THE NEGOTIATIONS STARTED THE DEPT. OF TRADE WERE ADAMANT THAT ONLY ONE CARRIER OF EACH NATION SHOULD BE ALLOWED ON ANY ONE ROUTE. NOW IT SAYS CERTAIN HIGH DENSITY ROUTES WILL BE ACCEPTED (SIC). NO DOUBT LAKER'S SKYTRAIN HAS MADE BRITAIN'S POSITION WEAKER."

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(JOHNSTON), CAB (WEST AND RODRIGUEZ)

4. DAILY EXPRESS, P.2, "U.S. WARNING TO BRITISH AIR-  
LINES".

A. "A WARNING THAT AN AIR WAR COULD BREAK OUT BETWEEN  
BRITAIN AND AMERICA WAS ISSUED LAST NIGHT AS DELICATE  
NEGOTIATIONS ON A NEW AIR SERVICES TREATY NEARED  
COMPLETION."

B. "WHAT HAS INFURIATED THE BRITISH, AND APPARENTLY  
EMBARRASSED THE AMERICAN NEGOTIATORS IS THAT MR. ADAMS'S  
THREAT WAS MADE JUST AS THE TWO SIDES WERE CLOSER THAN

EVER TO REACHING AGREEMENT."

5. TIMES, P.8, "U.S. THREAT TO HALT AIR SERVICES".

A. "AN AMERICAN THREAT THAT AIR SERVICES TO AND FROM  
BRITAIN WOULD CEASE IF A NEW BERMUDA AIR AGREEMENT WERE  
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NOT SIGNED THIS SUMMER WAS DISMISSED IN LONDON LAST  
NIGHT BY BRITISH GOVERNMENT SOURCES. THE THREAT CAME  
EARLIER IN THE DAY FROM MR. BROCK ADAM... 'CESSATION  
OF FLIGHT IS A REALISTIC POSSIBILITY.'"

B. REPORT GIVES FACTUAL REPORT OF WHAT WAS SAID  
REGARDING CONTINGENCY PLANS, DECISION FOR AGREEMENT BY  
JUNE 2, AND CONCORDE-AT-DULLES PROBLEM'S IMPACT ON  
SIGNING DATE.

C. "TALKS BETWEEN BRITISH AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENT  
NEGOTIATORS ARE GOING ON IN LONDON AT THE MOMENT, AND  
THE BRITISH SIDE WERE FURIOUS LAST NIGHT THAT MR. ADAMS  
SHOULD HAVE INTRODUCED SUCH A VIOLENT BOUT OF TURBULENCE  
INTO NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAD BEEN GOING REASONABLY  
SMOOTHLY, IF SLOWLY."

D. "THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION'S WORDS WERE  
DISMISSED BY THE BRITISH SIDE AS A BLUNDERING AND FLAT-  
FOOTED ENTRY BY A MAN STILL THINKING AS A POLITICIAN,  
RATHER THAN A DIPLOMAT."

6. LAST EVENING THE TABLOID EVENING STANDARD HAD 1 INCH,  
5 COLUMN BACK PAGE HEADLINE "FLIGHTS TO U.S. COULD BE  
HALTED."

A. "THE THREAT OF FLIGHTS BETWEEN BRITAIN AND THE UNITED  
STATES COMING TO A HALT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BUSY SUMMER  
HOLIDAY PERIOD GREW LARGE TODAY. IT FOLLOWED WHAT LOOKED  
LIKE A FLAT ULTIMATUM FROM WASHINGTON TO WESTMINSTER."

B. COUPLE OF PARAGRAPHS ON IMPACT OF CESSATION, BACK-  
GROUND FOR U.K. RENUNCIATION.

C. "BRITISH OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN SAYING PRIVATELY THAT TO  
STOP SERVICES WOULD BE UNTHINKABLE, BUT TODAY'S STICK-  
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WAVING BY THE AMERICANS HAD AN AIR OF STUBBORN DETERMINATION ABOUT IT."

D. SEVERAL PARAGRAPHS REPORTING ON THE CONCORDE IMPACT.

E. "BRITISH NEGOTIATORS HAVE ALREADY BACKTRACKED ON A NUMBER OF KEY ORIGINAL DEMANDS -- LIKE THAT WHICH SAID THERE SHOULD BE ONLY ONE AIRLINE FROM EACH COUNTRY ON ANY GIVEN ROUTE."MILLER

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## Message Attributes

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